

Today, with more than 300,000 members across the United States, Hadassah supports the Hadassah Medical Organization, the most advanced medical center in the Middle East. This medical center is comprised of two hospitals, 90 outpatient clinics, and numerous community health centers. It provides state-of-the-art health care to 600,000 patients a year—regardless of race, religion, or creed. In addition, through the congressionally funded American Schools and Hospitals Abroad Program, the medical center also stands ready to serve American military troops should the need arise.

Hadassah also funds and maintains four major programs in Israel and the United States. They include: Hadassah Israel Education Services, Youth Aliya, Young Judeaea, and the Jewish National Fund. Hadassah also provides relief services during international health crises, including in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rwanda. In the United States, Hadassah members are engaged in a multitude of activities. From women's health seminars to programs about Jewish traditions and rituals, Hadassah is dedicated to improving the lives of those in our community.

Hadassah's mission is to promote a prosperous and peaceful Israel, ensure Jewish continuity, pursue social justice, and provide for the health, education and well-being of American Jewish women and their families. I hope my colleagues will join me in saluting the spirit of volunteerism and service to community that has marked the 90 years of Hadassah's existence.

IN HONOR OF HADASSAH

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise and honor Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America for their 90th Anniversary. Hadassah is the largest women's and Jewish membership organization in the United States.

Henrietta Szold, the Jewish scholar and activist, who was dedicated to Judaism, Zionism, and the American ideal, founded the organization in February 1912. Her goal was to strengthen their partnership with Israel, ensure Jewish continuity, and realize their potential as a dynamic force in American society. Today, Hadassah's efforts are enhancing the quality of American and Jewish life through its promotion of education, health awareness, and unity.

Hadassah's greatest achievement to date is their network of world-renowned medical and educational institutions in Israel. It provides the highest quality of health care to countless individuals throughout the Middle East, regardless of race, religion or nationality.

Please join me in honoring Hadassah for their continuous efforts in improving the life of Americans as well as the rest of the world.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF HADASSAH

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 90th anniversary of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. This esteemed organization has grown to become the nation's largest woman's and Jewish membership organization. Today, we celebrate Hadassah having dedicated 90 years to pursuing a most worthy humanitarian mission.

It was in 1912 that the educator and visionary Henrietta Szold founded Hadassah. In the time since, it's members have not only been committed to promoting a peaceful and prosperous Israel, ensuring Jewish continuity and pursuing social justice, but also providing for the health, education, and well-being of American Jewish women and their families. This organization has helped build Israel's medical infrastructure from the foundations laid by two American nurses in 1913 through a combination of hard work and professionalism. Today the Hadassah Medical Association supports the region's most advanced medical center, treating 600,000 patients a year from all religious and ethnic backgrounds, and assisting in the training of greatly needed doctors and nurses.

On home soil, Hadassah has also had a historic impact, easing the concerns of women and the Jewish Community. In response to some 43,000 breast cancer deaths each year, Hadassah has joined the battle to diagnose cases early, by running screening and awareness programs. Furthermore, the organization sponsors Jewish family programs across the nation, encourages civic participation and has devoted considerable effort to educating members and the general public alike, on important public policy issues.

Mr. Speaker, for nine decades Hadassah has served communities worldwide improving the lives of women and their families. Now I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring this organization and its members past and present, for their perseverance and many remarkable accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF HADASSAH'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, with great pride I rise to praise the work and women of Hadassah on their 90th Anniversary.

Hadassah has been in the forefront of support for women's rights, women's health, and Israel for almost a century, and its impact can be seen in countless ways.

In Israel, Hadassah's hospitals and clinics provide the best medical care in the region to all those who need it. They treat patients without regard to race or religion, from the victims of the worst terrorist attacks in the region to individuals from across the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Here in the United States, Hadassah's work in Los Angeles and across the Nation strengthens our community and our ties to Israel. Hadassah works to ensure access to medical care, prevent genetic discrimination, ensure women's reproductive rights and battle domestic violence. Its education and advocacy campaigns have brought people together in support of issues of vital importance to Jewish women around the world.

Hadassah was founded, as the story goes, on Purim 90 years ago. It took its name from the Hebrew word for Esther, who thwarted a plot to kill all the Jews in Persia. Hadassah has thwarted efforts to harm the needs and interests of the Jewish community ever since, and has reached out to all in need.

Congratulations to Hadassah, and thank you.

IN HONOR OF HADASSAH—THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hadassah, on the occasion of the organization's 90th anniversary.

In February of 1912, Henrietta Szold founded Hadassah, presently the largest women's and largest Jewish membership organization in the United States. During the past nine decades, thousands of members from throughout the United States have set forth to promote a prosperous and peaceful Israel, ensure Jewish continuity, pursue social justice, and provide for the health, education, and well-being of American Jewish women and their families.

Since the group's humble beginning as a women's study circle, dedicated members have helped Hadassah to become one of the world's leading humanitarian organizations. In Israel, Hadassah's flagship project, the Hadassah Medical Organization, is the most advanced medical center in the region. This state-of-the-art healthcare facility is comprised of two hospitals, 90 outpatient clinics, numerous community health centers, and annually services over 600,000 patients regardless of race, religion, or creed.

The compassion of Hadassah is not only illustrated by their healthcare efforts. Hadassah funds and maintains four major Israeli and American programs—Young Judeaea, Young Aliya, Hadassah Israel Education Services and the Jewish National Fund. Each of these programs strives to support and promote Jewish life for Israelis and Americans of all ages. In addition to these programs, Hadassah is engaged in a wealth of educational, advocacy, training, and community service initiatives both in the U.S. and in Israel.

In honor of more than 300,000 members of Hadassah, I am privileged to pay tribute to their selflessness, incalculable hospitality, and success. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you and my colleagues of the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Hadassah and its dedicated members for nine decades of social action and noble work.

TRIBUTE TO HADASSAH

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, on its 90th anniversary. I have enormous professional respect for Hadassah, I also have a deep personal affinity: my mother was a very active member, and some of my other relatives were officers in important Hadassah chapters.

Founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold, Hadassah has become the largest women's and largest Jewish membership organization in the United States, with over 300,000 active members in all 50 states.

Hadassah's greatest achievement is its network of world-renowned medical and educational institutions in Israel. Their flagship project, the Hadassah Medical Organization, provides the highest quality health care to more than 600,000 patients a year from throughout the Middle East—regardless of race, religion or nationality—and is a resource for training health care professionals around the world. It also supports a variety of world-class research projects that have resulted in significant medical advances, particularly in the areas of breast cancer and the treatment of various genetic disorders. Over the years I have strongly supported the U.S. Agency for International Development's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program, which provides a key source of funding for Hadassah's health care activities.

In addition to their outstanding work in Israel, Hadassah supports many important health, education and women's initiatives here in the U.S. These include a nationwide breast cancer awareness and detection campaign, Jewish family programs, and efforts to promote greater civic participation and awareness of key public policy issues. Through these activities, Hadassah's devoted volunteers strengthen our partnership with Israel, promote the unity of the Jewish people, and truly change people's lives.

I commend Hadassah for its excellent work over the past ninety years, and look forward to continuing my work with the organization to ensure an even brighter future.

TRIBUTE TO HADASSAH

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 90th anniversary of the founding of Hadassah. With over 300,000 members worldwide, Hadassah is both the largest women's organization and largest Jewish organization in American history.

Founded in 1912 by Jewish scholar and activist Henrietta Szold, Hadassah has evolved as a leading volunteer women's organization, committed to Israel, Jewish continuity and American ideals.

In Israel, the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem has become a world-renowned center of medical excellence. With

two hospitals, five schools, outpatient clinics, research facilities and a community health center, Hadassah is a lifeline for Israeli families and an important partner with the United States in medical research and training.

Sadly, the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East has also made the Hadassah hospital into the premiere trauma center for the victims of the vicious suicide attacks by Palestinian terrorist groups. Reconstructing bodies and healing wounds, the Hadassah doctors and nurses have saved numerous lives and restored the futures of many youth wounded in these gruesome attacks.

Hadassah's work also extends worldwide, with its nurses and doctors dispatched to work with refugees in Rwanda and to treat victims from the terrorist bomb blast at the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires.

Here in the United States, Hadassah is committed to health awareness for its members and for women and girls in underprivileged communities. Hadassah organizes education and screening for diseases like breast cancer and osteoporosis. It sponsors youth reading programs and mobilizes volunteers on national policy issues like school vouchers, genetic discrimination, and a woman's right to choose.

I am proud that Southern California boasts one of the largest concentrations of Hadassah members with over 20,000 activists in nearly 100 chapters.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Hadassah's 90th anniversary and in congratulating Hadassah on its tremendous impact worldwide.